

State of California HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY



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KIMBERLY BELSHÉ
SECRETARY

Aging

Alcohol and
Drug Programs

Child Support
Services

Community Services
and Development

Developmental
Services

Emergency Medical
Services Authority

Health Care Services

Managed Risk
Medical Insurance Board

Mental Health

Public Health

Rehabilitation

Social Services

Statewide Health
Planning and
Development

To: Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Senate Health Committee
Senate Human Services Committee
Senate Budget Committee, Subcommittee 3 on Health and Human
Services
Senate Appropriations Committee
Assembly Health Committee
Assembly Human Services Committee
Assembly Budget Committee, Subcommittee 1 on Health and Human
Services
Assembly Appropriations Committee
Legislative Analyst's Office

From: Kimberly Belshé *Kimberly Belshé*
Secretary

The California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS) provides the attached documents pursuant to the Omnibus Health Trailer Bill, AB 203, Chapter 188, Statutes of 2007. This statute requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to verify that the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) have established protocols between the departments, the regional centers and Medi-Cal contracted health care plans that will be providing services, including health, dental, and vision care, to people with developmental disabilities transitioning from Agnews Developmental Center (Agnews). The statute further requires that the Secretary of Health and Human Services provide written verification of the establishment of these protocols to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, as well as to the fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature that oversee health and human services programs.

These protocols establish the framework for the provision of health care services in the community and provide a mechanism to identify, address and resolve issues that may arise throughout the closure process. CHHS, DDS and DHCS are committed to working closely with our state and local partners to ensure that consumers have access to the necessary health services and supports in the community.

To this end, below is a summary of each attached document.

- DDS/DHCS MOU: Referred to as the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Health Services for Former Agnews Developmental Center Consumers, this document clarifies the roles and responsibilities of DDS and DHCS in ensuring that both entities are appropriately accountable for optimizing the health and welfare of each individual. Specifically, the MOU delineates the responsibilities of both departments pursuant to Welfare & Institutions (W&I) Code section 4474.5, related to administration, rate development, data exchange, consumer transition, community health services, training, and dispute resolution.
- Regional Center/Health Plan MOU: Referred to as the Memorandum of Understanding for Regional Centers and Health Plans, this document provides a template for each regional center and health plan, outlining each entities' responsibilities to provide health care and other support services to former Agnews residents in the community. Specifically, the MOU addresses eligibility, authorization, care coordination, behavioral services, education, regional center/health plan coordination, medical records, quality improvement, post placement acute care hospitalization transition, dispute resolution, and resource development.

In addition to the protocols, DDS and its partners have developed the following materials to assist consumers and families with the transition of health care services:

- Overview of Health Services in the Community: This document outlines the services and supports for residents transitioning from Agnews to the community. The overview seeks to help consumers and families understand how services will be provided in the community and the roles and responsibilities of the various entities involved. Specifically, the document focuses on the transition process, ongoing medical services provided through the Agnews Primary Care Clinic, coordination of services between regional centers and health plans, and behavioral and dental services.
- Letter to Consumers, Families and Other Stakeholders: The final attachment is a letter to consumers, families and other stakeholders that focuses on providing an introduction to the protocol documents and well as the resources available for health care and transition planning. Consumers and their families can use this information to access the services and supports necessary for a safe and successful transition to the community.

As the Agnews closure draws near, the health and safety of each resident remains the Administration's highest priority. We will continue to protect the health and well-being of each individual in the transition process, and to provide access to the necessary services and supports, in accordance with each consumer's needs and preferences.

The Administration appreciates the Legislature's leadership and ongoing support as we continue implementing the Agnews Closure Plan.